



Lamoine Board of Selectmen

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Minutes of June 17, 2010

Chair Jo Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Present were: Selectmen William Brann, Cynthia Donaldson, Gary McFarland, Richard Fennelly Jr., S. Josephine Cooper; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, Animal Control Officer Michael Arsenault, Deputy CEO/Road Commissioner Michael Jordan, Transfer Station Manager Bill Fennelly and Code Enforcement Officer Dennis Ford

Agenda Review – Cynthia said she would like to add items concerning the Cable TV recording system and how the Selectmen's recommendation appears on a ballot.

Minutes – June 3, 2010 – Richard said he had a few very minor changes. Cynthia moved to approve the minutes with those changes. Bill 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0 (Cooper abstained)**

Expenditure Warrant 25 – Selectmen signed warrant 25 for \$195,063.70. Cynthia asked about the hot water heater at the fire department and whether the Selectmen should have approved it prior to being installed. Stu said it's in the fire chief's budget and he approved it. Mike Jordan gave a brief explanation of how the new hot water heater works. Stu noted the electric bill dropped sharply.

Cash & Budget, Investment Management Reports – There were no questions or comments in regard to the written reports.

Tax Collector Settlements – Jo moved to approve settlements on the property tax commitments of 2007 and 2008. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0, Selectmen signed the settlements.**

Mileage Rate – Jo moved to approve the policy up setting the mileage rate effective July 1, 2010 at \$0.47/mile. Richard 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0, Selectmen signed the policy.**

Administrative Assistant Contract Acknowledgement – Stu reported the acknowledgement of his contract rate is the same as what was budgeted. Jo moved to approve the acknowledgement, Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0, Selectmen signed the acknowledgement.**

Appointments to Boards and Committees – Jo moved to appoint the following:

Planning Board – Gordon Donaldson (5-years)
Board of Appeals – Jay Fowler (3-years)
Budget Committee – Henry Ashmore (3-years)
Conservation Commission – Carol Korty (3-years)
Conservation Commission – Robert Pulver (3-years)

Conservation Commission Alternate – Annie Crisafulli (3-years)
Conservation Commission Alternate – Nancy Pochan (3-years)
Conservation Commission Associate – Laurence Lovett (3-years)
Parks Commission – Nathan Mason (3-years)
Parks Commission – Julie Herrick (3-years)

Richard 2nd **Vote in favor was 5-0, with the exception of Gordon Donaldson, which the vote in favor was 4-0, (Cynthia abstained). Selectmen signed the appointment papers.** It was noted that two local school advisory committee positions become vacant on June 30, 2010, and both current office holders have indicated they do not wish to be reappointed.

Road Name – Jo moved to approve the name “Failte Lane” for a road intersecting Seal Point Road. Bill 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0. Selectmen signed the road naming order**

Lamoine Quarterly – Stu said he’d quickly drafted up a first page and would be working on the paper over the next few days. He said he would e-mail it to the Board for final approval prior to printing.

MMA Legislative Policy Committee – Selectmen opted to vote for the two candidates on the Maine Municipal Association LPC ballot, and signed the ballot.

Cable TV – Auto Recording – Cynthia said she was troubled to find out that the CTV system had recorded and replayed video of folks voting at the June primary. Stu explained how the problem occurred, and said there was no audio telecast. There was discussion of people being recorded without their knowledge. It was noted that the on-air light was not functioning.

Wording on Budget Referenda Questions – Cynthia reported that she was troubled by how the Selectmen recommendation was worded on the upcoming ballot on the MDI Debt Service Question. She said the implication is that it was a unanimous vote by the Selectmen to recommend a no-vote. She said state law says nothing on how the recommendation is to be stated on the ballot, and it’s up to the Selectmen to design the warrant. Richard said the wording has not deviated in the past. Stu noted that a budget referendum question has rarely been used. A short discussion followed. Cynthia noted that a majority of the board could decide how the recommendation, which is required by state law, is to be worded.

Town Meeting Format Survey – Cynthia said between 140 and 150 surveys have been returned, and that has people talking about the issue. Richard asked what the board would do with the results. Cynthia said the comments would probably be the most useful item. There was a brief discussion about the survey. Richard said the Board should look at the results. Cynthia said she would have some time to compile the results next month.

High School Tuition Bill – Stu reported the excess tuition bill from RSU 24 was significantly higher than what town meeting had approved about a year ago. He said there is only \$25,167.75 appropriated, and the bill is \$20,293.51 more than that. Richard said it appeared that the RSU only figured in the debt service factor, and not the difference between the cost for tuition between the RSU and the non-RSU schools. Jo said the bottom line is that the town is \$20,293.51 short and she thinks that stinks. She asked if another town meeting is needed to approve that expenditure. Stu said he wasn't sure. He said he would recommend checking to see if RSU 24 can build that difference into the assessment for the upcoming fiscal year. Bill asked if the town is obligated to pay it. He said the estimate was a whole lot of wrong.

Selectmen agreed to ask the RSU to get an opinion on whether this difference can be built into the school assessment for FY 2010/11. Stu said he would talk with the RSU.

Hodgkins Trust – Stu reported that Bar Harbor Trust Services is working on petitioning the court to be able to reduce the amount from the Hodgkins Trust from \$350,000 to \$200,000 as the minimum principal to generate some income for the town.

Safe Routes to School – Jo reported there were too many questions and not enough time to put together a good application for the project. She said it's all about walking and biking and that has to be part of the town's plans, such as a Comprehensive Plan. She said an application is not possible at this time.

Shore Road Closure – Stu reported Jay Fowler's crew will be replacing a culvert on Shore Road next Tuesday. He said notifications were mailed to residents on Shore Road and the intersecting roads. Road Commissioner Jordan reported he'd received the notice earlier in the day.

Abatements – Stu reported Old Point Inc. has filed abatement requests with both the County Commissioners and the State Property Tax Review Board.

Next Meetings – Selectmen will meet next on July 8, 2010 at the Fire Station, and also on August 12, 2010, September 2, 2010 and September 16, 2010.

Tax Commitment – Richard asked if he understood correctly that the school's tax requirement would be about \$53,000 less this coming year. Stu said that was the initial budget, but the fund balance request and now the excess tuition would likely result in a flat taxation requirement for the schools.

Executive Session – Jo moved to enter executive session pursuant to 1MRSA § 401(6)(a) to conduct job performance reviews with several personnel and contract negotiations with the Town Clerk/Tax Collector. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0 at 7:54 PM. Out at 10:19 PM**

Staff Appointments – Jo moved to appoint the following staff:

Town Clerk – Jennifer Kovacs

Tax Collector – Jennifer Kovacs
Excise Tax Collector – Jennifer Kovacs
Deputy Treasurer – Jennifer Kovacs
Road Commissioner – Michael Jordan
Health Officer – Cecilia Ohmart
Animal Control Officer – Michael Arsenault
Fire Chief – George Smith
Transfer Station Manager – William Fennelly
Harbor Master – David Herrick
Deputy Harbor Master – Kevin Murphy
Code Enforcement Officer – Dennis Ford
Local Plumbing Inspector – Dennis Ford
Building Inspector – Dennis Ford
Deputy Code Enforcement Officer – Michael Jordan
Deputy LPI – Michael Jordan
Deputy Building Inspector – Michael Jordan

Richard 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0, Selectmen signed the appointment papers.**

Jo moved to approve a contract with Town Clerk/Tax Collector Jennifer Kovacs. Gary 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0. Selectmen signed the contract.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst.